



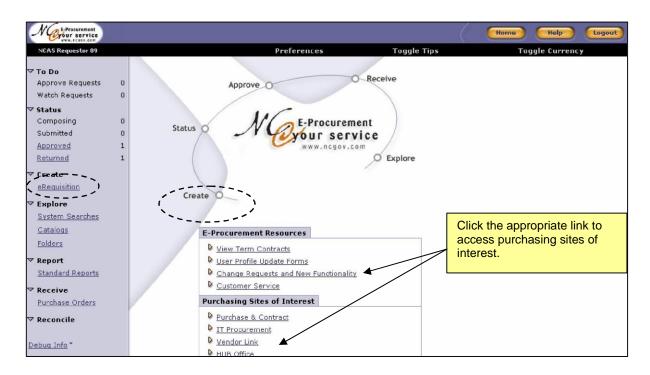
PROCESS GUIDE CONTENT

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eRequisition Overview

This process guide provides instruction on the functional steps to create an eRequisition containing a catalog item. An eRequisition is a requisition that is created electronically. Catalog items signify that the items are on term contract with the state and can be Statewide Term Contracts, IT Convenience or Agency Convenience Contracts.



An eRequisition is created when a user selects items to order over the Internet through NC EProcurement @ Your Service. The user initiating the eRequisition is referred to as the requestor. A Shortcut Menu on the left hand side of the E-Procurement Home Page displays the required process steps as well as noting the user's progress. The user navigates through the process steps by either clicking the links in the Shortcut Menu or by using the navigational buttons at the top or bottom right of the screen. There are three main steps required to create an eRequisition:

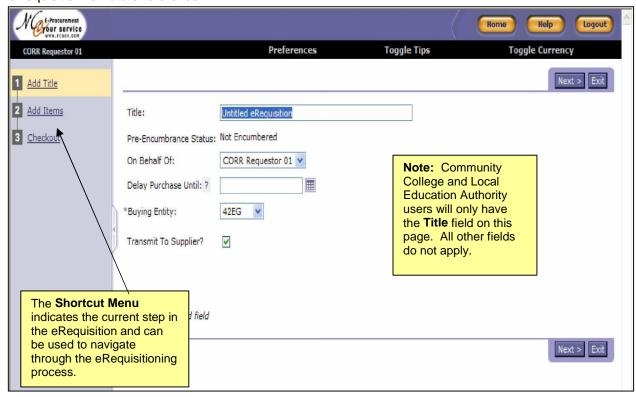
- 1. Add Title enter a title that describes the purchase
- 2. Add items select and add items to the shopping cart
- Checkout enter shipping, accounting, and comment information, as well as review the eRequisition for accuracy



The Home Page, shown above, is the first page displayed once a user logs into the NC E-Procurement System. This page is also referred to as the Swoosh page. To begin an eRequisition, click the 'Create' button on the Swoosh or the 'Create' link in the Shortcut Menu.

1.0 Add Title

The Add Title page is the first step in creating an eRequisition. It allows the user to name the eRequisition for future reference.



- 1. Title -- The title of the eRequisition should be descriptive of the item(s) being purchased.
- 2. **Pre-Encumbrance Status** (NCAS users only) This field indicates the pre-encumbrance status of an eRequisition in NCAS. An eRequisition is 'Not Encumbered' until the eRequisition has been sent to NCAS to pre-encumber the designated amount.

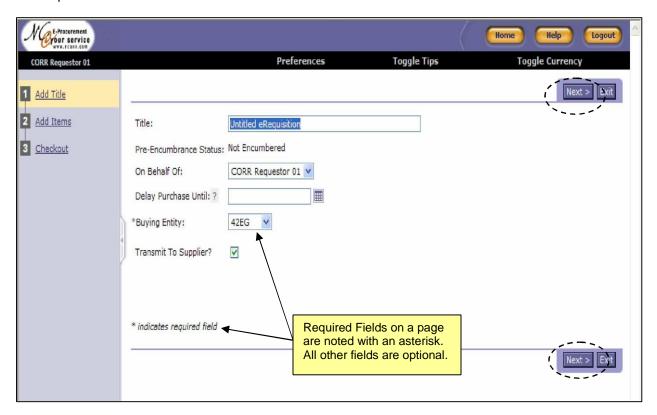
Note: Once a user submits the eRequisition, the information is sent to NCAS to pre-encumber the designated amount of the purchase. The Pre-Encumbrance Status reflects whether the eRequisition has been pre-encumbered. When the eRequisition becomes a purchase order, the money will be fully encumbered in NCAS.

3. **On Behalf Of** (NCAS users only) – The 'On Behalf Of' field will default to the requestor's login token. To create an eRequisition on behalf of another user, locate the user's name in the dropdown box.

Note: If the user's name does not appear in the dropdown box, choose '**Other...**' to select the appropriate user.



4. **Delay Purchase Until** (NCAS users only)— The 'Delay Purchase Until?' field allows the eRequisition to be submitted and approved but not be distributed to the supplier until the date specified.



5. **Buying Entity** (NCAS users only) -- This field will default to the buying entity defined in the user's profile.

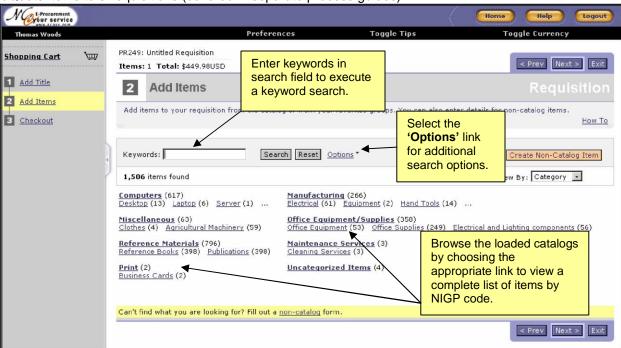
Note: This field cannot be changed once the eRequisition has been submitted.

- 6. **Transmit to Supplier** (NCAS & Community College users only) The 'Transmit to Supplier' box defaults to checked. The vendor **will not** receive a copy of the purchase order if this field is unchecked.
- 7. Click the 'Next' button to continue to the next step in creating an eRequisition.



2.0 Add Items

Users can add catalog (term contract) items to their eRequisition from the Add Items page using the catalog search functionality, The Add Items page is also used to add non-catalog items, punchout, and eQuote items to eRequisitions (covered in separate process guides).

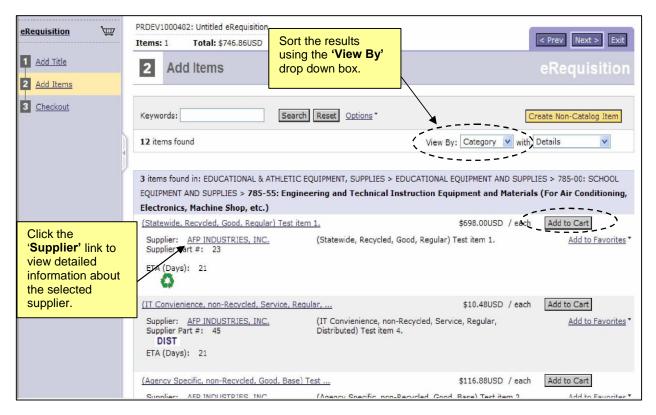


Users can search the term contract catalog in three ways: Keywords Search, Advanced Search (Options), and Browsing the Catalog.

- Keywords Allows the user to type in key words that describe the item they wish to purchase
 into the search field. The system will then search through all the contracted items and display the
 items similar to the keyword search. The keyword search is intended to be the most frequently
 used search.
- 2. **Options** –Allows users to customize the search function by selecting additional fields to include in the search:
 - **Keywords:** Choose to match the keyword(s) entered by the exact phrase or exact words.
 - Additional Options: Select the desired field and enter the search criteria. Available options include: Supplier, Supplier Part #, Manufacturer, Mfg. Part #, Price, and ETA (Days).
 - **Custom:** Choose 'Favorites' to view the list of items saved in the favorites list. (See '6.0 Catalog Item Favorites' for additional details).
 - Views: Select to show or hide all available search options.
 - Saved Searches: Run a saved search by clicking the name of the search previously saved. To save a new search, choose 'Other'. (See '7.0 Catalog Saved Searches' for additional details).



3. **Browsing the Catalog** – Allows the user to manually drill through the National Institute of Government Purchasing (NIGP) commodity code structure to find a desired item. Click on the appropriate header (or detailed) link to view a list of the items in a particular category.



- 4. When a user executes a catalog search, a list of items is returned. The default display of results is based on relevance. Search results can also be viewed by: category, supplier, or price.
- 5. Click the 'Add to Cart' button to add the item to the shopping cart.

Note: Users can customize the search results by selecting the appropriate view in the 'View By:' and "with' drop down boxes. Search results can be displayed with detailed or summary information. Users can also view results using 'Details (multi)' or 'Summary (multi)' which allows multiple line items to be added to the shopping cart at once.



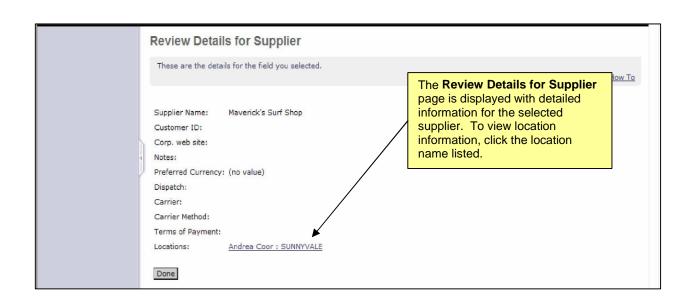
6. Select 'Details (multi)' to view the results with detailed information and add multiple line items to the shopping cart at once.

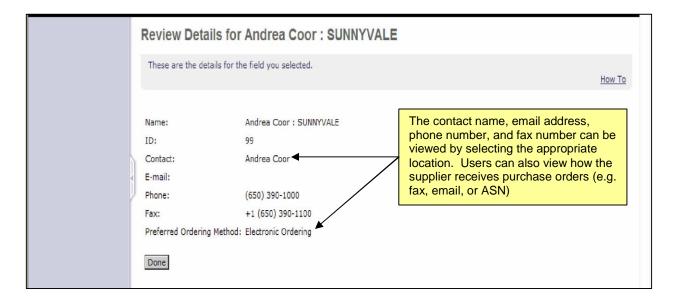


 Place a checkmark in the checkbox beside each line item that you wish to add to the shoppingcart and click the 'Add to Cart' button. Each line selected will now be added to your shopping cart.

Note: To view additional supplier information, click the supplier name link.





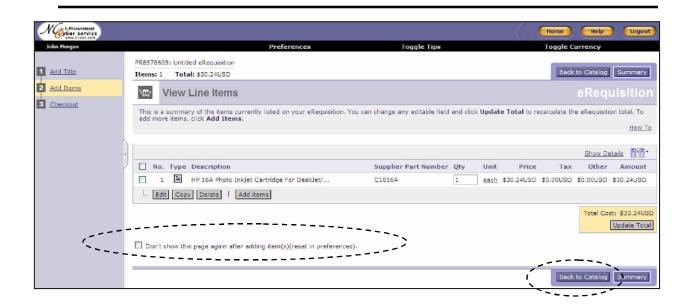




Note: There are several icons that may be listed to catalog line items indicating additional information.

- Recycled Content Icon: Indicates the item is made from recycled materials.
- **DIST Icon:** Indicates the item is supplied by a distributor. Once the item is added to the shopping cart, users will need to select the appropriate distributor through the supplier field.
- **HUB Icon:** Indicates the item is supplied by a registered Historically Underutilized Business (HUB).
- Contract Icon: Provides a link to the state term contract. Click on the link to display the state contract in a new browser window.





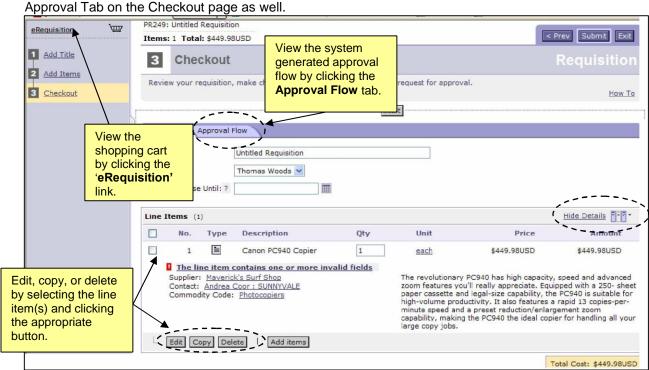
Note: The View Line Items page is automatically displayed after an item is added to the eRequisition. Check the 'Don't show this page again after adding item(s) (reset in preferences)' checkbox to prevent the shopping cart from displaying each time items are added. Once this option is selected items will be added to the shopping cart, but the user will remain on the 'Add Items' screen.

8. Click the 'Back to Catalog' button to return to the Add Items page to select additional items for the eRequisition.



3.0 Checkout

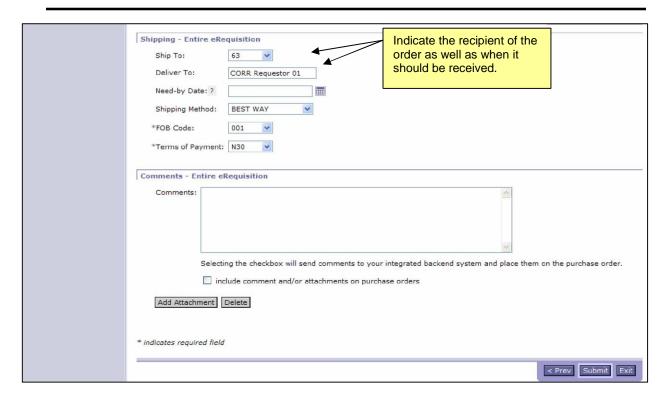
The Checkout page allows the user to enter shipping, accounting, and comment information, as well as review the eRequisition for accuracy. The approval flow for the eRequisition can be viewed from the



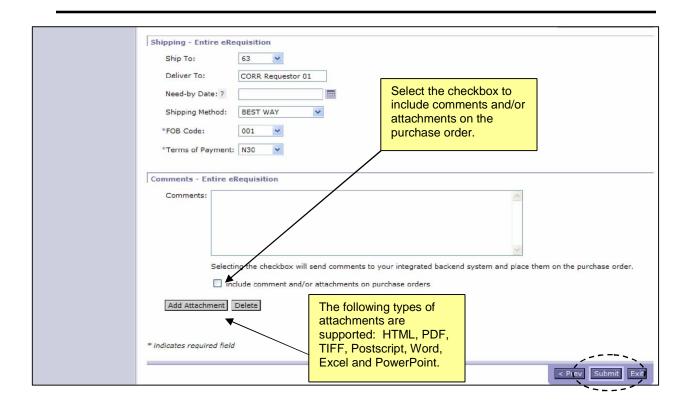
Line Items -- Review the eRequisition line items on the 'Checkout' page before submitting the
eRequisition. Edit, copy, and/or delete existing line items directly from this page by placing a
checkmark beside the line item and clicking the appropriate button. (See the 'Editing Line Items'
process guide for additional information). To add additional line items to the eRequisition, click
the 'Add Items' button.

Note: Click the 'Hide Details' link to customize the amount of detailed information that is displayed on the Checkout screen.





- 2. **Shipping Entire eRequisition** Shipping information entered will default to all line items entered on the eRequisition.
 - **Ship To:** The 'Ship To' field automatically defaults to the Ship To location in the user's profile. To select a different ship to address click the drop-down box and choose the desired address. If the address name is not listed in the drop-down box, choose 'Other' for a complete list of addresses available for the entity.
 - **Deliver To:** The 'Deliver To' field defaults to the user's name. To enter another name or department name do so in this free text field.
 - **Need-by Date:** The 'Need-by Date' is transmitted to the vendor on the purchase order as the date that the items need to be delivered. Use the calendar icon to select the appropriate date.
 - **Shipping Method:** The 'Shipping Method' field defaults to 'Best Way'. Use the drop-down box to choose the appropriate shipping method for the eRequisition.
 - **FOB Code:** The Freight on Board (FOB) Code reflects how freight charges for the order are paid. Select the option meeting the user's agency purchasing policies.
 - **Terms of Payment:** The 'Terms of Payment' field determines the timelines and conditions of payment to the vendor.

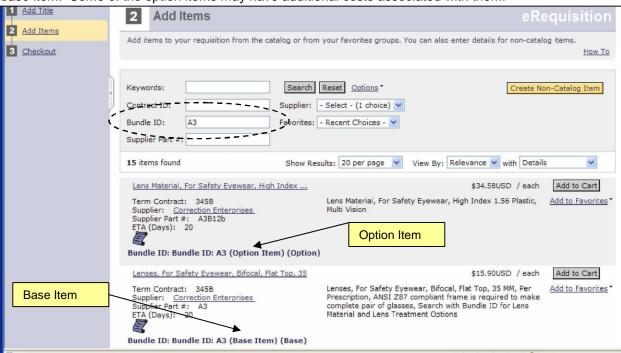


- 3. **Comments Entire eRequisition** Enter header comments and/or attachments necessary to complete the eRequisition. To include a comment and/or attachment with the purchase order, select the checkbox beside, **'include comment and/or attachment(s) on purchase orders.'**
- 4. **Approval Flow –** Review the system generated approval flow by clicking the Approval Flow tab. (See the 'Approval Flow' process guide for additional information).
- 5. **Submit -** To submit the eRequisition to the approval flow, click the 'Submit' button either at the top or bottom of the page.



4.0 Catalog Item Bundle IDs

Bundle items are items that are grouped together by the supplier. Items in the catalog that are part of a bundle will display a Bundle ID number beneath the item description. There are two types of items in a bundle: a) bundle base item and b) bundle option items – the options or choices that accompany the base item. Some of the option items may have additional costs associated with them.

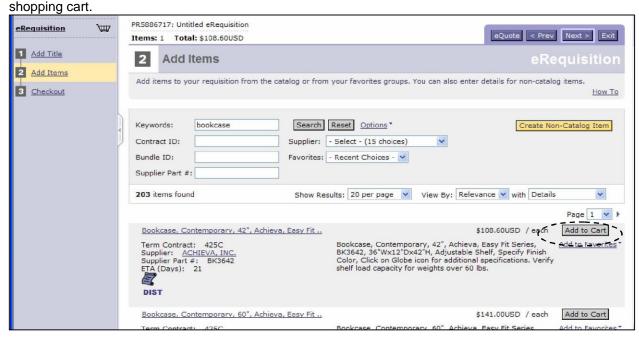


- 1. Conduct a keyword search by placing the Bundle ID in the keyword search field.
- 2. The returned search results contain the base item along with the available option items.
- 3. Click 'Add to Cart' beside each item to be added to the shopping cart.
- 4. Complete the eRequisition as normal.

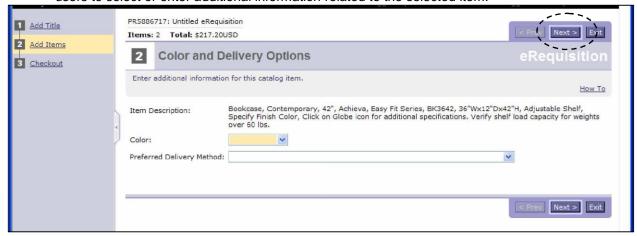


5.0 Catalog Item bForms

BForms are term contract items that have specific attributes associated with them, and the user must select a preferred option before the item is added to the eRequisition (e.g., size, color, delivery options). When a user adds a bForm item to the eRequisition, the system displays the options for the user to choose. The user should select the preferred options and click 'Next' to add the item to the



1. Execute a keyword search and add the item to the shopping cart. An additional screen willprompt users to select or enter additional information related to the selected item.



- 2. Select the necessary additional information, using the dropdown box, as indicated on the page.
- 3. Click 'Next' to add the item to the shopping cart.
- 4. Complete the eRequisition as normal.

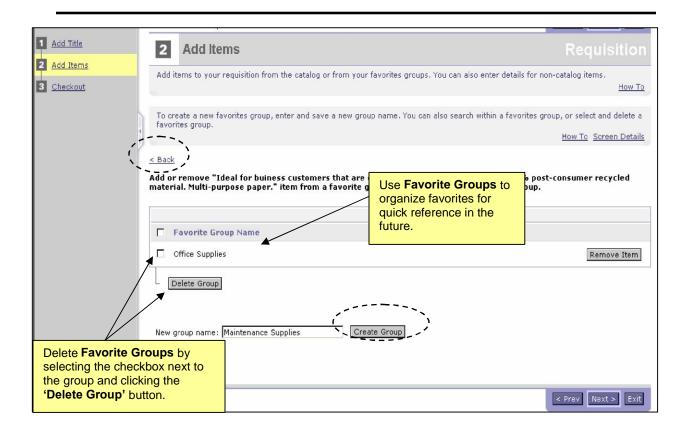


6.0 Catalog Item Favorites

Users can add specific term contract items to a favorites list for quick reference. Catalog items saved in Favorites are updated as the catalog item is updated (e.g., price, description). To utilize catalog Favorites, users must first define 'Favorites Groups'. Specific catalog items can then be added to a defined Favorites Group.

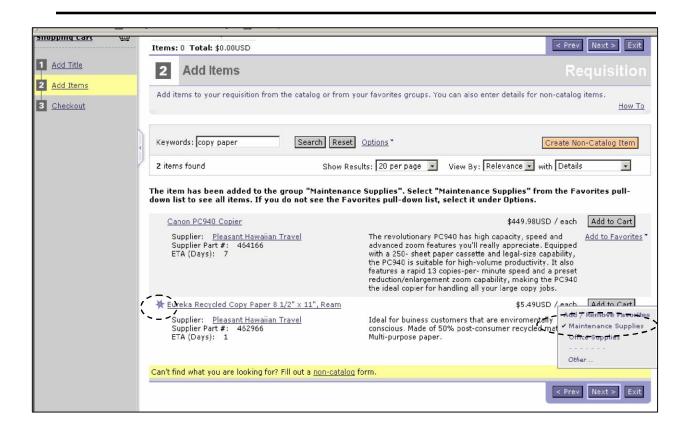


- 1. To define a Favorites Group, execute a catalog search for the desired item.
- 2. Click the 'Add to Favorites' link and choose 'Other...'



- 3. In the 'New group name' field type the name of the Favorite Group to create.
- 4. Click the 'Create Group' button. The new group will appear in the Favorite Group Name list.
- 5. Click the 'Back' link to return to Add Items screen.





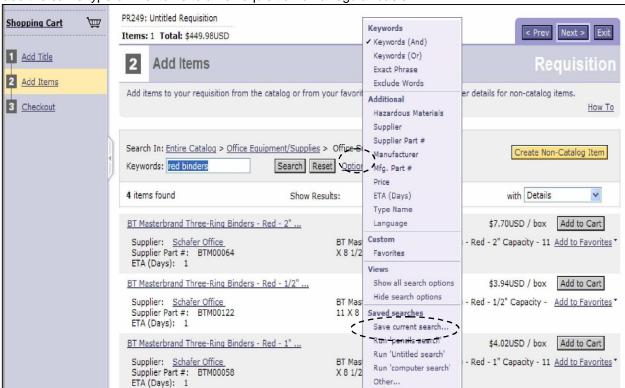
6. To add an item to the Favorites Group, click the 'Add to Favorites' link. Users can then add the item to the desired Favorites Group by choosing the name from the menu.

Note: Once the item has been added to the desired favorites group, a star is placed beside to item to mark it as a favorite.

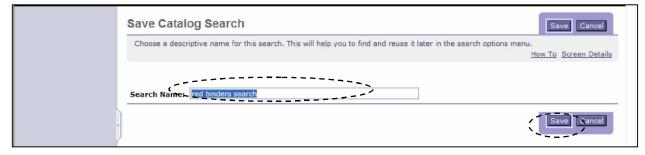


7.0 Catalog Saved Searches

Users can save frequently used catalog searches for future reference. This can be helpful for users that add the same type of line items to an eRequisition on a regular basis.



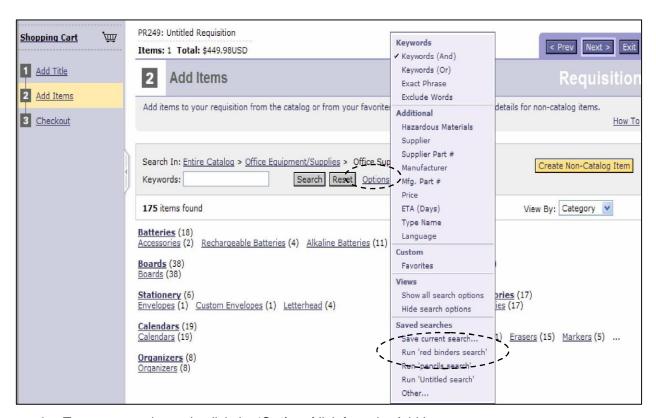
- 1. On the Add Items screen, complete the catalog search to save. The results are displayed.
- 2. Click the 'Options' link to view the list of available options.
- 3. Choose 'Save current search...'



4. In the 'Search Name' field enter the name of the saved search.



5. Click the 'Save' button. The catalog search is now saved and the user is returned to the Add Items screen.



- 6. To use a saved search, click the 'Options' link from the Add Items screen.
- 7. Choose the saved search to execute under 'Saved searches'. The results for that search are displayed.

Note: Saved searches save the search criteria to be executed, not specific catalog items.